

APR. 20. 2004 2:33PM

NO. 109 P. 8/8

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10, 11-17, 23-26 and 53-59 remain in the application. Claims 1-8, 10, 11-17, 23-26 and 53-59 are allowed. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowed claims.

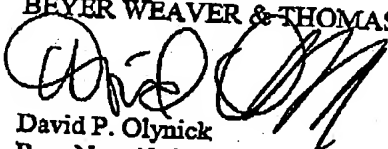
Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to consider entering the following amendments to claims 5, 6 and 7. If the Examiner does not find these amendments acceptable for entry, Applicant respectfully asks the Examiner to call the Applicant.

Claims 5 and 6 have been amended because the term "pre-strain" does not have antecedent basis from claim 1. Claim 1 provided antecedent basis for the pre-strain term prior to the last amendments to claim 1.

Claim 7 has been amended to change the dependency from claim 6 to claim 1.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,  
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